

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PARIS 25158 251817Z

63

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-13 EB-11 CU-04 DRC-01 /156 W

----- 058716

R 251735Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3474

INFO CONSUL HONG KONG 972

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 25158

DEPT PASS USLO PEKING

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, CH

SUBJECT: FRENCH JOURNALIST'S VIEW OF PRC INTERNAL POLITICS.

REF: PARIS 24933

1. LE MODE FOREIGN AFFAIRS EDITOR MICHEL TATU TOLD EMBASSY OFFICERS THAT HE CONCLUDED DURING HIS RECENT VISIT TO CHINA ACCOMPANYING POMPIDOU THAT CHINESE INTERNAL POLITICAL SITUATION WAS STILL FAR FROM STABILIZED. WHILE CHOU EN-LAI WAS OBVIOUSLY A VERY IMPORTANT FIGURE, HE DID NOT SEEM TO CONTROL SOME POLITICAL ELEMENTS. TATU CITED FRENCH SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS LIPKOWSKI'S REPORT OF MAO'S PRESENTING WANG HUNG-WEN TO POMPIDOU AS A "RISING STAR" AS AN INDICATION MAO WAS USING WANG AND PERHAPS OTHERS AS MEANS OF LIMITING CHOU'S POWER. HE THOUGHT THE INCIDENT SHOWED ALSO THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN MAO AND CHOU WERE NOT SO WARM AS THEY WERE PORTRAYED OFFICIALLY.

2. IN PARTICULAR, TATU THOUGHT THAT THE SHANGHAI GROUP EXERTED AN INFLUENCE WHICH CHOU WAS FORCED
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PARIS 25158 251817Z

TO RECOGNIZE. PARTICULARLY IN SHANGHAI, WANT

HUNG-WEN BEHAVED WITH AN AUTHORITY WHICH INDICATED AN INDEPENDENT POLITICAL POWER. FOR EXAMPLE, DINNER INVITATIONS TO THE PRESS BORE PROMINENTLY WANG HUNG-WEN'S NAME IN IMPOSING CHARACTERS. THE PRESS HAD BEEN TOLD THAT CHOU EN-LAI WISHED TO TALK TO THE PRESS AFTER THE DEPARTURE OF POMPIDOU'S PLANE, BUT AS CHOU APPROACHED THE PRESS ENCLOSURE AT THE AIRPORT A SHANGHAI OFFICIAL WHISPERED A FEW WORDS AND CHOU TURNED AWAY AND LEFT IN HIS CAR. TATU AND OTHER JOURNALISTS CONCLUDED THAT THE SHANGHAI GROUP HAD VETOED CHOU'S PLAN TO SPEAK TO THE JOURNALISTS.

3. COMMENT: TATU IS A RESPECTED JOURNALIST WITH CONSIDERABLE EXPERIENCE, AND HIS CONCLUSIONS, WHILE UNVERIFIABLE HERE, MAY BE OF INTEREST TO ADDRESSEES.

GSD

IRWIN

NOTE BY OCT: NOT PASSED USLO PEKING.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, POLITICAL STABILITY, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973PARIS25158
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS IRWIN
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730912/aaaaaape.tel
Line Count: 79
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: PARIS 24933
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 JUL 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25-Jul-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <20-Nov-2001 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRENCH JOURNALIST'S VIEW OF PRC INTERNAL POLITICS.
TAGS: PINT, CH, FR, (WANG HUNG-WEN), (MAO TSE TUNG), (POMPIDOU, GEORGE), (TATU, MICHEL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005